

RE: Proceeding #02-306

It is my understanding the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) is currently considering an application by SBC Pacific Bell to allow their entry into California's long distance market. I am writing you to convey my support for the request by SBC Pacific Bell to initiate long distance service.

According to information provided to me, the FCC has previously granted approval for local carriers to enter the intrastate long distance market in 23 other states. In order for California customers to have an opportunity to benefit from an open and competitive marketplace, every industry player should be eligible to compete equitably and fairly.

The entry by SBC Pacific Bell into the local long distance arena in California would come at a time when the telecommunication industry faces significant challenges and would provide additional choices for consumers which would assure fair and balanced competition based upon sound business practices, technology and investments.

Your attention to this matter is appreciated. In my view, the time has come to allow people in California to enjoy the benefits of a competitive telecommunications market.

Sincerely,

Don Nottoli, Supervisor
Fifth District

DN:smp